

# Sackville News



17<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Dear Parents

It has only been two school weeks since the last edition of Sackville News yet so much has been happening!

The exams are now finally drawing to a close and many students begin a period of well-earned rest, punctuated by highlights such as the **Proms** next week at the Felbridge Hotel for our year 11s and at the East Grinstead Sports Club for our year 13s.

Life for the hard working staff continues at a pace with many other opportunities being offered to help expand the horizons of our students. Planning for **Curriculum Enhancement Week** is well under way and we are currently in the middle of holding **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) days** for both year 8 and year 9, the former following a theme of 'Keep calm and carry on; STEM in the disaster zone' and the latter's theme being 'The make-up of an elite athlete'.

Celebrating achievement along the way is also important, so we are looking forward to **special awards assemblies** for years 8 and 9, a **celebration tea** for year 7s and a **celebration breakfast** for our year 9 fast track GCSE languages students. The **Brunel Awards** will also give us time to reflect on the fine achievements of our young scientists.

Year 10 rather draw the short straw at the moment as they are taking their **mock examinations** over the next week or so! Many of them took the **Core Science GCSE** papers last week and several went on the **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh** expedition over the last week. Some of you may have noticed our website front page being updated with their photos over the weekend; I would like to thank Mr de Souza for his tremendous commitment to keeping us all updated, wherever we are.



Beyond all of this, we have year 10s preparing for their **trip to Malawi** in the summer, **sports days** for all year groups later this month, year 10 **GCSE drama performances** this week, our **Btec performing arts** evening next week, playing at **Proms in the Park** at East Court, the **music trip to the Rhineland** in July and, maybe to top it all, our '**Eggsfest**' **open air concert** on 8<sup>th</sup> July which promises to be spectacular! After spending a couple of days building the stage, we will be welcoming hundreds of year 5 local primary school children to join us in this festival of music that is becoming an annual treat.

This is also the time of year when we **welcome our new parents** whose sons and daughters are joining the school in September. This week, we are holding individual interviews with them and, at the start of next month, students will join us for **three days of induction** with parents invited during that time. Several of our students are helping out by greeting parents and showing them around the school. Our **new Head Team** has been particularly active in this.



Abby Beswick, Vicki Pellett and Emmie van Lieshout

One of the nicest aspects of being a Headteacher is the regular sense of feeling immense pride in what the young people in the school are achieving. An article below outlines some great sporting successes, for example in the recent **county athletics championships** and **regional athletics finals** where our students excelled, often achieving personal bests at high national standards. **Vicki Pellett** won the hammer, **Abby Beswick** won both the 100 and 200m, **Dan Elliott** won the high jump and there were strong performances from **Tom Dean** in the 800m and **Emmie van Lieshout** in the 200m. We also hosted the **area year 9 rounders tournament** on 9<sup>th</sup> June with several mid-Sussex schools taking part.

Students can, of course, reveal their talents in many different ways and I have been so impressed by the approach of our year 12 students to their **work experience placements at Chailey Heritage School**. Staff have been visiting them (including guests from our partner school in Hamburg) and I am looking forward to visiting myself later this week.



A large party of year 8 students have recently returned from a **trip to Catalunya, Spain**, where they spent a week sampling the language and culture of the region and enjoying the city of Barcelona. The 20 hour coach trip each way was, I am sure, a bit of a challenge but they all seemed to take it in their stride!

I am also pleased to inform you that, following discussions with parents and St. John's Ambulance, we have now installed a **defibrillator** at the school. Our students' health and safety is always of paramount importance and I appreciate the help parents have given with this.

Finally, I would like to extend our good wishes and farewells to Mr MacCaoilte, teacher of science, who will be leaving this week to pursue a career in pharmaceuticals. He will be greatly missed and I have a feeling that he will return to teaching one day!

With best wishes,

Julian Grant

## ¡Vamos a España!

Mr Bolton writes:-

The third year 8 Spanish trip to Tossa del Mar took place in the week after half term.

69 students enjoyed the 20-hour coach journey down to our resort where we were greeted with customary Catalan hospitality and unbroken sunshine.

Our first day trip to Barcelona took us to the famous Camp Nou football stadium which was abuzz with excitement as Barcelona had won the Copa del Rey on the previous Saturday and were preparing for the Champions' League final on the coming Saturday. Students admired exhibits from the past and the vast stadium and many took the opportunity to take memorable photos. We then travelled on to Gaudi's Park Güell where lunch was taken in shady areas, before moving on to the impressive Sagrada Familia where students were given a guided tour of one of the world's most impressive buildings.

The second day in Barcelona gave students the opportunity to visit some of the bigger shopping stores and to enjoy the buzz of Las Ramblas with its kiosks, artists and human statues, before walking past the iconic monument of Christopher Columbus and down to the port.



Two days were also spent in our resort where students worked hard on their study booklets and produced videos in Spanish about the resort. A compilation of these is currently being put together and we look forward to showing it in a year 8 assembly. Students also enjoyed cooling down in the hotel pool and beach games in the evening.

The last evening saw a full-on disco with so many students dancing with endless enthusiasm. Even the teachers cut some moves, although few of these were memorable.

Thank you so much to all the students and teachers for making this such a memorable trip. Students experienced much of Spanish life and it was gratifying to see so many of them putting their Spanish to practical use. We will all have many fond memories and look forward to returning to Spain. Watch out for the Madrid trip in Key Stage 4.



Don't forget you can get the latest news from Sackville by following us on Twitter (@Sackville\_EG), or checking the school website – it is regularly updated!

## Year 13 leave with seven years' worth of memories

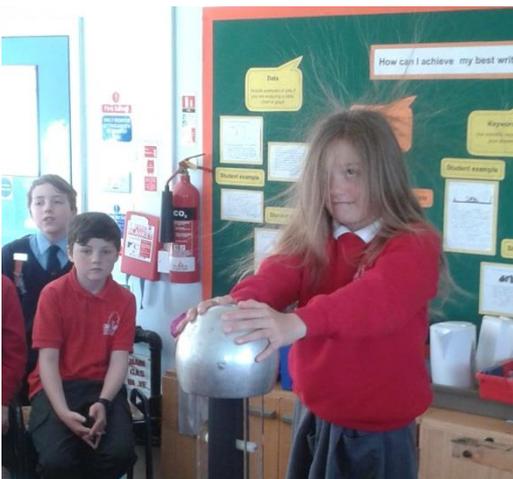
Year 13 students officially left the school the day before the half-term holiday.

Mr Whitehead was master of ceremonies at the final assembly, during which Phil Lloyd and Will Duffield's leavers' video was the highlight. As usual all staff who were free joined in the celebration and it was particularly good to see Mrs Francis and Mr Smith back.



As these students finish their exams at the end of their school lives we all wish them the very best for the next stage of their lives.

## Year 5 taster days



The week after our most senior students left, we were very happy to welcome year 5 students from ten different junior schools who came to see what lessons at Sackville were like. The pupils enjoyed lessons in every subject area, and even the rain did not stop them enjoying PE. Pupils left each day with things made in the lessons such as globes from geography and key rings from technology.

Here you can see Lucy and William from Forest Row enjoying the Van der Graaf generator, under the watchful eye of Mr Bush, the Head of Science.

We look forward to seeing all of these students at the **school open evening on 24<sup>th</sup> September**.

## Year 10's enjoy the sun on Duke of Edinburgh weekend

Izzy Booker and Elliot Bramwell write:-

Over the weekend of the 13th and 14th June, forty year 10 students went on our qualifying expedition for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. The weekend involved six teams of six or seven students hiking for over 25km through the South Downs National Park. On the first day we set off on our walk at 10am and used our navigation skills to hike through some tricky terrain, squeezing through bushes and over stiles carrying our huge back packs! The first day took us six hours to reach our campsite for the night (apart from one team who took 8 hours as they got lost). Here, we cooked our evening meal as a team (we had a veggie stir-fry with noodles).



We had a great night's sleep until one group read their watch wrong and woke up at 5am, and in an attempt to look good woke up the rest of the camp site as they started taking down their tent! There were some unhappy campers! In the morning we cooked our bacon sandwiches and packed away our tents ready for the hike to the finish. The last day was less eventful as our navigation skills were improving and all teams finished their hike by 3.30pm. We all arrived back at school tired but pleased that we had completed our challenge. We were really lucky with the weather as it didn't rain all weekend!



Overall this was a great

experience for all students who took part and we would like to thank the teachers for camping in a field with us for the weekend and occasionally looking for lost groups.



## A level chemists ask "What's the link between a cricket bat and an aspirin?"

Mrs Webb writes:-

Our Y12 Chemists have started A2 studies this week and are already fully engaged in practical work. One of their first experiments was to extract salicylic acid from willow bark.

So, the connection in question is the willow tree.

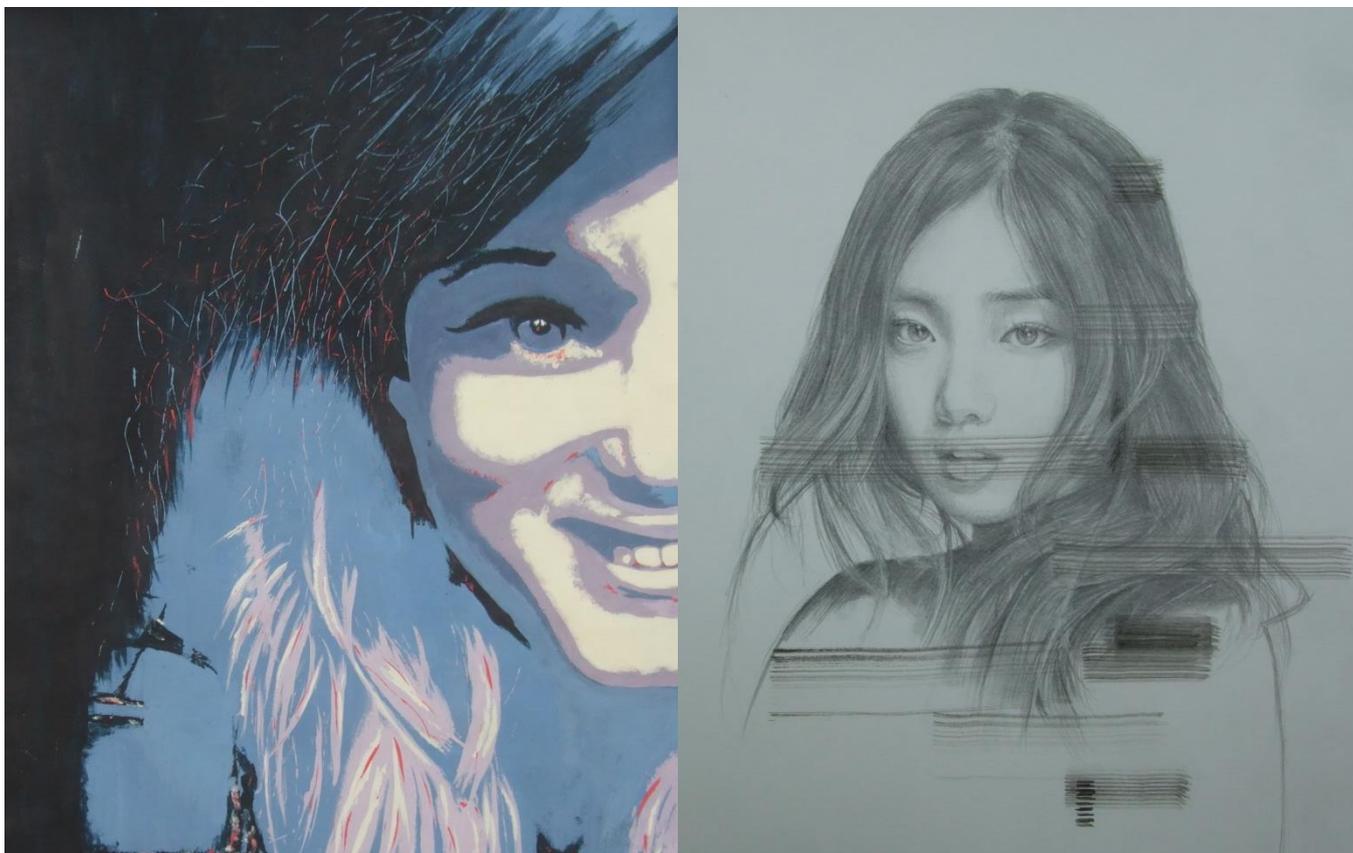
In 400 BC, Hippocrates recommended a brew of willow leaves to ease the pain of childbirth and interestingly the substance salicin, extracted from the willow has no pharmacological effect by itself. The body converts it by hydrolysis and oxidation into the active chemical in aspirin, salicylic acid. Fascinating stuff!



## Rosie and Nori chosen to exhibit in SEEART exhibition

Two year 12 students have had their artwork selected to be exhibited in the SEEART exhibition in the Assembly Halls in Tunbridge Wells at the end of the month. Rosie Aylmer and Nori Ishii are both studying fine art at A level. I think you'll agree that their work is well worth exhibiting.

If you can't make it to Tunbridge Wells, why not come in to our own art exhibition?



Examples of Rosie's and Nori's work which will be displayed in Tunbridge Wells

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Wednesday 1st July 5-8pm  
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Sackville School  
Lewes Road  
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RH19 3TY  
www.sackville.w-sussex.sch.uk  
Exhibition open Tues 30th June, Weds 1st, Thurs 2nd July

**AS A level GCSE Art Photography 3D**  
GCSE Painting by Anna Davison

## Year 12 work experience at Chailey Heritage

Mrs Valentine writes:-

As Mr Grant has already mentioned, all of our health and social care students (and a couple of others!) began a week's work experience at Chailey Heritage this week. This continues the link we have with this excellent school. Several staff have already visited and the students are in their words 'having an amazing time' getting involved in the day-to-day routine and care of the pupils. The girls are really animated and forthcoming with praise about their visit.

They are pictured here with our two visiting teachers from our link with Hamburg, who are over here to find international work experience placements for their students.



## New chess club at Sackville

Mr Langford writes:-



Inspired by the interest shown in the game by many students, I will be running a summer chess club starting this term. I see this as a great opportunity to allow students to develop their planning and problem solving skills while enjoying the beautiful game of chess.

It was immediately clear that many other teachers agree with my sentiments when I posted an email asking for any chess sets for the club. The number of responses I received from members of staff from many departments offering support, equipment and involvement was phenomenal, and in keeping with true Sackville spirit!

The club will be running most Tuesday and Thursday afternoons after school. All interested students are welcome to join, and **any donations of old chess sets are most welcome**. Feel free to contact Mr Langford in Science for more details.

## Former student Matthew Spencer



It's always good to get news of former students. This month I was contacted by the parents of **Matthew Spencer** who has just opened at the Playhouse Theatre playing Winston Smith in the Headlong Theatre Company's production of **1984**, a stage adaptation of George Orwell's classic novel.

Matthew studied at Sackville under first Mr Blanche and then Mrs Griffiths, and we'd like to think that Sackville played a part in launching his acting career.

1984 is on at the Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, throughout the summer.

Matthew is pictured here in an early rehearsal for the play.

Maybe the next Sackville theatre trip will be to see an ex-student?

## Sports News

As usual in the summer term there has been a lot of sporting activity. Sackville continues to produce strong **cricket** teams and it is good to see our under 12s doing so well.

Recently **James Young** and **Louis Maxwell** broke the record for a year 7 opening partnership at Sackville making an unbroken 134 runs. James finished on 59 not out, Louis 24 not out.

The year 8 team has also put in some strong performances, the most notable being a close two-run victory over Tunbridge Wells Boys' Grammar, in which **Morgan Fletcher** starred with the bat and **Robyn Pollard** with the ball.



In **athletics** too we are blessed with some talented performers in year 7, with the Sackville team winning the **year 7 Super Sixes** at Oakmeeds.

The junior and intermediate boys made it through to the English Schools Track and Field Cup Regional Final at Ashford. Mr Endersby writes: -

*On a windy day in Kent, the Junior and Inter boys Sackville Athletics squads competed in the Regional Final held at Julie Rose stadium. After leaving school earlier than an assembly would begin, and with only one U-turn required en-route, the athletes arrived with the opportunity of competing once again and aiming to produce personal bests against some of the strongest schools from Kent, Surrey, Sussex and London.*



*Tremendous performances included personal Bests for **Ethan Carrick** (Junior Boys – 100m) 12.6secs, **Harvey Byatt** (Junior Boys – Long Jump) 4.82m, **Matt Tomkinson** (Junior Boys – Triple Jump) 9.59m, **Harry Bryant** (Inter Boys – 300m) 38.8secs. Countless other athletes performed faster, longer or higher than they had done previously in the first round at K2 in May.*

*The whole squad should be very proud of their achievements at the English Schools competition. Both squads still have the Reg Clarke games to look forward to, plus our year 7 athletes will be competing in their own competition at the end of the month.*



### Squad members

**Junior Boys:** Ethan Carrick, Harvey Byatt, Ayo Odeyinde, Tom Cocks, James Scrace, Brice Major, Callum Stone, Matt Tomkinson, Theo McFarlane, Tom Wallis, Ben Mooney, Sam Kelly, Owen Capel, Ben Sanders

**Inter Boys:** Sam Havers, Dan Wheate, Adam Kelly, Alex Keeley, Harry Bryant, Chris Oglethorpe, Tom Dean, Dan Elliott, Harry Durgan, Luke Burtenshaw, Rienel Bronilla, Will House, Or Shay, Ben Martin, Devon Frost

Finally as mentioned in Mr Grant's article, Saturday was a red letter day for Sackville athletes at the Sussex Schools' Athletics Championships.

### Sackville Futures Day

On Wednesday 15th July kicking off at 9.00am until 2.00pm we are hosting an event where Yr10 Students can learn more about the range of jobs and employment opportunities open to them.

If you can support this event by coming in and delivering a rolling half hour talk/workshop/activity about your job to small, supervised groups of students throughout the day or part of the day then please contact Jane Wogan: Email:

[jwogan@wsgfl.org.uk](mailto:jwogan@wsgfl.org.uk) or telephone: 01342 410 140 ext 719

Many thanks for your support! Tom Heatley

**Drama Club 2015**  
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**THE CHOCOLATE**  
**FACTORY**

**by Roald Dahl**



**Wednesday 24th June ~ 4pm**  
**Drama Studio 1 ~ Tickets £2/£1 conc**



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2015

6PM

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28th June 1pm to 5pm

- EAST -  
COURT

LIVE

FREE  
ENTRY  
PAY BAR & BBQ

# Proms In the Park

Sackville School, East Grinstead Concert band,

Forest Row Orchestra

The Merry Opera Company.



- EAST GRINSTEAD -

26th July 1pm to 5pm

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COURT

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ENTRY  
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The Jive Aces

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